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Proceedings of the Club

TUESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 10, 1899

Vice-President Rusby in the chair ; 33 persons present.

The following new members were elected : Miss Mary B. Pitman, 304 E. 21st St.; Mrs. Francis B. Arnold, 101 W. 78th St.; Mrs. E. E. Olcott, 38 W. 39th St.; Miss Lucy McIntyre, 303 W. 74th St.; Dr. A. Henri Hart, 73 Lexington Ave.; Mr. S. Whitney Dunscomb, Jr., 132 Nassau St.: nominated by Dr. H. H. Rusby as Chairman of Committee on Membership. Mr. Gustave Heinen, 142 Second Ave.; Miss Rosalie Rosenburg, 128 E. 70th St.: nominated by the Secretary. Miss Annie D'Zan, 63 Stuyvesant Ave., Brooklyn : nominated by the Treasurer.

In response to an invitation from Dr. MacDougal, secretary of section G of the A. A. A. S. a committee was appointed to prepare a memorial program in honor of Dr. Torrey, to be given at the June meeting of the Association in New York ; this committee to consist of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary and two other members whom they shall appoint.

Dr. Britton called attention to the expected opening of the Museum at the Botanical Garden in December, and suggested that it might be appropriate that the first scientific meeting to be held there be that of the Torrey Club, this Club having made the first movement toward starting the Botanical Garden.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to reports from excursions and from summer observations by members.

Dr. Rusby, as guide to nine excursions in the spring, reported an average attendance of 31.

At Floral Park, L. I., May 20th, the club enjoyed the fine botanical library of Mr. C. L. Allen, and the method of cultivating seedling tulips shown by Mr. E. S. Miller.

June 3d the club was very kindly entertained at Fort Lee by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. O. Allison.

Miss Sanial, from the Committee on Field Excursions, followed, making a report embodying lists of species observed during the excursions from June onward.

October 7th the Club went to Plainfield, N. J. The guide, Miss Noll, of Plainfield, invites the Club there in the coming spring, and calls attention to the occurrence of *Mertensia* at the Raritan near that place.

Mrs. Britton reported on a trip June 27, to Closter, N. J., for the purpose of photographing the house in which Austin lived. He is buried at Orangeburg, N. Y., six miles north.

Professor Underwood reported on the Decoration Day excursion to Tullytown, Pa.; about 20 persons from Philadelphia and 12 from New York present. *Isoetes riparia*, a tidal plant, occurred along streams tributary to the Delaware.

Dr. Britton reported further of this trip regarding a patch of pine-barren species explored there, among which grew a *Senecio* resembling *S. Oakesianus* of the Adirondacks but probably different.

Dr. Britton reported also on the 4th of July excursion to the Delaware River at Bull's Island, another *Isoetes*, *I. Dodgei*, occurring there.

Professor T. C. Porter reported at the latter place the occurrence of *Equisetum littorale*, *Onosmodium Virginianum*, etc.

Both of these excursions were contributory to Dr. Fretz' revision of Moyer's catalogue of the Bucks Co. flora soon to be issued. It is now being worked out with attention to details of distribution, ecology and modern taxonomic views.

Discussion regarding various gentians followed.

Mr. Van Brunt reported seeing a single stem of *Gentiana crinita* bearing 59 flowers, all the upper, certainly 20, in full bloom. Placing the plants, after clipping, in the dark over night and leaving until 9 or 10 A. M., they expanded beautifully on exposure to the light.

Rev. L. T. Chamberlain reported 96 buds and blossoms on a single stem of *Gentiana crinita* in Mass., at West Brookfield. White blossoms came out in six weeks after it, the stem having bloomed in his study 42 days. Mr. Chamberlain also reported that Dr. Isaac Lea, of Philadelphia, had told him of finding a stem of *Gentiana crinita* with 150 blossoms.

Professor Porter called attention to white flowers of *G. Andrewsii*; it is this he thinks which was described as *G. alba*.

He spoke of the habit of *Gentiana quinqueflora* to produce a

great variety of size in the same soil, with little dwarfs with one flower at one inch high.

Professor Porter spoke of *G. flavida* as recently found in Bucks Co.

Dr. Rusby referred to a successful experiment in scattering the seeds of the fringed gentian upon the snow, resulting in a profusion of young seedlings.

Mr. Henshaw paid a tribute to the beauty of the alpine gentians of the Old World, and to the cultivation of seedling tulips by his father, waiting till the seventh year for them to "break," growing only late-flowering tulips. Mr. Henshaw said he had no theory of the cause but had never known one to fail to "break," and knows of no other plant of similar habit.

Rev. L. T. Chamberlain spoke of a walk near Fabyan's in the White Mountains with the whole covering of the earth composed of *Cypripedium acaule*, seemingly a hundred thousand plants.

EDWARD S. BURGESS,
Secretary.